

# TEUTONS BEGIN BALKAN DRIVE TO AID TURKEY

### Shelling of Belgrade First

## LIKELY TO SETTLE

## British Experts Look for Immediate Alignment of Little Nations.

*Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.*  
LONDON, AUG. 15.—The Austro-German forces massed along the Serbian frontier began a bombardment of Belgrade, the Serbian capital, just across the Danube from Semlin, on Thursday of last week.

The Serbians, who are prepared for almost any eventuality, having massed all available troops on the Hungarian frontier, replied to this bombardment by

The Austrian gunnery ceased firing. Slight damage was done to private dwellings in all three places.

The Austrian bombardment was apparently intended to terrify the Belgrade population and to reveal the position of Serbian batteries in that vicinity by observing their fire. The presence of considerable Teutonic forces across the river from Belgrade, however, indicates it is the position of military engineers that

In the minds of military observers, the Austro-German operations against Serbia are to consist of two simultaneous campaigns. One—a repetition of the original Austrian campaign against Serbia last fall—will have as its object the occupation of Belgrade, while the other, the main movement, will be an attempt to throw an army of overwhelming strength across the northeast corner of

**Bulgar Envoy Recalled.**

stantinople to negotiate terms with Turkey has been recalled, says a despatch from Sofia. This action was taken because of the significance attached to the note sent to the Balkan States by the Entente Powers.

This news would indicate that Bulgaria is satisfied with the representations made by the Entente Powers and is about to cease endeavoring to come to an understanding with Turkey.

A despatch from Sofia states that Premier Radoslavoff has reassured the Opposition leaders with reference to the Government's attitude in the event that circumstances should compel a departure from the present policy. It is understood that the Premier will confer with all party leaders, thus avoiding a convocation of Parliament.

The opening of the Greek Parliament to-day is awaited anxiously. It is gen-

trally believed that M. Venizelos, upon reassuming the office of Premier, will declare himself in favor of the Entente Powers and the cession of certain Greek territory to Bulgaria as an inducement to that country to take up arms against the Austro-Germans and the Turks. Such a course will be acquiesced in by King Constantine only after every effort on his part has failed, for there is no doubt that his inclinations lean strongly

Unquestionably it is the belief of military men here that the Teutonic allies have determined to strike at Serbia and to strike quickly with such force that

all Serbian resistance will be swept aside. The operations will begin just as soon as the last hope of Rumanian neutrality has dwindled. Apparently the massing of a great army at Orsova—estimated at 300,000 troops—by the Tatars has had a double object. The first is to make a military demonstration before Rumania, thus as a last resort endeavoring to scare that country into neutrality, all diplomatic efforts having

In the last few days no vital news respecting the Balkan situation has been allowed to pass the censor in Germany or Austria. This fact is in itself significant when taken in conjunction with the usual Teutonic silence that precedes a storm. It is not considered likely that the Balkan situation will be threatened with

The situation at the Balkan front is a permit of long delay in the prospective German drive through Serbia, even though political and diplomatic motives should dictate the wisdom of watchful waiting. Consequently the English military critics expect quick action on the part of the Teutons, with the certainty that as soon as the German allies have begun their invasion of Serbia the Balkan deadlock will be broken.

The situation is fraught with the greatest significance. The final alignment of the Balkan countries may very well mean the quick defeat of Germany and Austria or the prolongation of the war for an indefinite period.

From Nish to-day came the first news of the Austrian bombardment of Belgrade. It was contained in the following official statement from the Serbian

At 2 P. M. on August 12 the enemy began to bombard Belgrade with heavy howitzers from Hill 105, west of Semlin. In order to force the enemy to cease this senseless bombardment we dropped shells on Semlin and Pancsova and fired on the heights north and northwest of Semlin, where the enemy's reserves were concentrated.